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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/062,974	01/31/2002	Massimiliano Antonio Poletto	12221-01101	2836
26161	7590	08/10/2006	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON PC P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			WRIGHT, NORMAN M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2134	

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/062,974	POLETTI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Norman M. Wright	2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/1/06
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


NORMAN M. WRIGHT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The rejections with respect to 112 2nd paragraph are withdrawn. Applicant is reminded that an apparatus must be distinguished from the prior art in terms of structure rather than function. Additionally, with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be used, it does not differentiate from a prior art apparatus. See MPEP 2114.

Double Patenting

1. Claims 1-32, are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 3-4, 6-8, 12-15, 17, and 26-27 of copending Application No. US 2002/0035683 A1, hereinafter '683. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because, the monitoring devices and/or probe or plurality of probes devices are monitors that are statistical collectors in both applications. Similarly, the cluster heads are in fact the controllers/centers for the monitor/probes in both applications. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of US application '683, by labeling the cluster heads as controllers/centers, and the probe devices/monitors as statistical collectors/monitors as recited in the disclosure. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification because it involves only the aspect of labeling the functions of the device and not modifying its structure. One of ordinary skill in the art would have seen this as an obvious expedient to renaming the function of the

device/apparatus/system, while retaining the original functions. The specifics may be found in the prior office action. This obviousness type of rejection is being maintained.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 5/01/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant remarks that the prior arts fail to teach the features of a monitoring device, a plurality of probes collecting statistical information from data packets on a network, cluster heads coupled to said probes, and determining whether there is a denial of service attack on the data center, the examiner does not concur. The examiner has withdrawn the statutory bar and maintains the obviousness type from the previous action, pending a terminal disclaimer.
2. It is further noted that applicant has compared his apparatus claims of the instant invention with the method claims of '683, the examiner position is that corresponding elements have been renamed and therefore it stills fails to distinguish over the '683 reference. For example probes are monitors that collect and analyze data; the cluster heads, gateways or central controllers are components or subcomponents that perform the same features. Additionally, the recitations regarding being coupled to links that are coupled to networks, fails to explicitly recite a configuration limitation as it does not recite the direct coupling of any device. All devices and components and/or subcomponents of a computer system are connected, either through hardware, software, firmware or some other interfacing means; as such it does not server to distinguish.

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3. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion


The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Norman M. Wright whose telephone number is (571) 272-3844. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays, from 8AM to 4 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jacques Louis-Jacques can be reached on (571) 272-6962. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Norman M. Wright
Primary Examiner
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